

HONORABLE THOMAS S. ZILLY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE

POINT RUSTON GENERAL
CONSTRUCTION, LLC, a Washington
limited liability company,

Plaintiff,

vs.

THYSSENKRUPP ELEVATOR
CORPORATION, a Delaware corporation,

Defendant.

C20-5456 TSZ

STIPULATED PROTECTIVE ORDER

1. PURPOSES AND LIMITATIONS

Discovery in this action is likely to involve production of confidential, proprietary, or private information for which special protection may be warranted. Accordingly, the parties hereby stipulate to and petition the court to enter the following Stipulated Protective Order. The parties acknowledge that this agreement is consistent with LCR 26(c). It does not confer blanket protection on all disclosures or responses to discovery, the protection it affords from public disclosure and use extends only to the limited information or items that are entitled to confidential treatment under the applicable legal principles, and it does not presumptively entitle parties to file confidential information under seal.

2. “CONFIDENTIAL” MATERIAL

“Confidential” material shall include the following documents and tangible things produced or otherwise exchanged: thyssenkrupp, Point Ruston General Construction, LLC (“PRGC”), or other project participants (like architects or engineers or the project owners), elevator or construction or design plans, drawings, submittals, shop drawings, wiring diagrams, specifications, clarifications and, internal sales, pricing, bidding and billing documents.

3. SCOPE

The protections conferred by this agreement cover not only confidential material (as defined above), but also (1) any information copied or extracted from confidential material; (2) all copies, excerpts, summaries, or compilations of confidential material; and (3) any testimony, conversations, or presentations by parties or their counsel that might reveal confidential material.

However, the protections conferred by this agreement do not cover information that is in the public domain or becomes part of the public domain through trial or otherwise.

4. ACCESS TO AND USE OF CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL

4.1 Basic Principles. A receiving party may use confidential material that is disclosed or produced by another party or by a non-party in connection with this case only for prosecuting, defending, or attempting to settle this litigation. Confidential material may be disclosed only to the categories of persons and under the conditions described in this agreement. Confidential material must be stored and maintained by a receiving party at a location and in a secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons authorized under this agreement.

4.2 Disclosure of “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items. Unless otherwise ordered by the court or permitted in writing by the designating party, a receiving party may disclose any confidential material only to:



(a) the receiving party's counsel of record in this action, as well as employees of counsel to whom it is reasonably necessary to disclose the information for this litigation;

(b) the officers, directors, and employees (including in house counsel) of the receiving party to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation, unless the parties agree that a particular document or material produced is for Attorney's Eyes Only and is so designated;

(c) experts and consultants to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation and who have signed the "Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound" (Exhibit A);

(d) the court, court personnel, and court reporters and their staff;

(e) copy or imaging services retained by counsel to assist in the duplication of confidential material, provided that counsel for the party retaining the copy or imaging service instructs the service not to disclose any confidential material to third parties and to immediately return all originals and copies of any confidential material;

(f) during their depositions, witnesses in the action to whom disclosure is reasonably necessary and who have signed the "Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound" (Exhibit A), unless otherwise agreed by the designating party or ordered by the court. Pages of transcribed deposition testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal confidential material must be separately bound by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to anyone except as permitted under this agreement;

(g) the author or recipient of a document containing the information or a custodian or other person who otherwise possessed or knew the information.

4.3 Filing Confidential Material. Before filing confidential material or discussing or referencing such material in court filings, the filing party shall confer with the designating party, in accordance with Local Civil Rule 5(g)(3)(A), to determine whether the designating

1 party will remove the confidential designation, whether the document can be redacted, or
 2 whether a motion to seal or stipulation and proposed order is warranted. During the meet and
 3 confer process, the designating party must identify the basis for sealing the specific
 4 confidential information at issue, and the filing party shall include this basis in its motion to
 5 seal, along with any objection to sealing the information at issue. Local Civil Rule 5(g) sets
 6 forth the procedures that must be followed and the standards that will be applied when a party
 7 seeks permission from the court to file material under seal. A party who seeks to maintain the
 8 confidentiality of its information must satisfy the requirements of Local Civil Rule 5(g)(3)(B),
 9 even if it is not the party filing the motion to seal. Failure to satisfy this requirement will
 10 result in the motion to seal being denied, in accordance with the strong presumption of public
 11 access to the Court's files.

12 5. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL

13 5.1 Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection. Each
 14 party or non-party that designates information or items for protection under this agreement
 15 must take care to limit any such designation to specific material that qualifies under the
 16 appropriate standards. The designating party must designate for protection only those parts of
 17 material, documents, items, or oral or written communications that qualify, so that other
 18 portions of the material, documents, items, or communications for which protection is not
 19 warranted are not swept unjustifiably within the ambit of this agreement.

20 Mass, indiscriminate, or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations that are
 21 shown to be clearly unjustified or that have been made for an improper purpose (*e.g.*, to
 22 unnecessarily encumber or delay the case development process or to impose unnecessary
 23 expenses and burdens on other parties) expose the designating party to sanctions.

24 If it comes to a designating party's attention that information or items that it
 25 designated for protection do not qualify for protection, the designating party must promptly
 26 notify all other parties that it is withdrawing the mistaken designation.



1 5.2 Manner and Timing of Designations. Except as otherwise provided in this
 2 agreement (see, *e.g.*, second paragraph of section 5.2(a) below), or as otherwise stipulated or
 3 ordered, disclosure or discovery material that qualifies for protection under this agreement
 4 must be clearly so designated before or when the material is disclosed or produced.

5 (a) Information in documentary form: (*e.g.*, paper or electronic documents
 6 and deposition exhibits, but excluding transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial
 7 proceedings), the designating party must affix the word “CONFIDENTIAL” to each page that
 8 contains confidential material. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies
 9 for protection, the producing party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (*e.g.*, by
 10 making appropriate markings in the margins).

11 (b) Testimony given in deposition or in other pretrial proceedings: the
 12 parties and any participating non-parties must identify on the record, during the deposition or
 13 other pretrial proceeding, all protected testimony, without prejudice to their right to so
 14 designate other testimony after reviewing the transcript. Any party or non-party may, within
 15 fifteen days after receiving the transcript of the deposition or other pretrial proceeding,
 16 designate portions of the transcript, or exhibits thereto, as confidential. If a party or non-party
 17 desires to protect confidential information at trial, the issue should be addressed during the
 18 pre-trial conference.

19 (c) Other tangible items: the producing party must affix in a prominent
 20 place on the exterior of the container or containers in which the information or item is stored
 21 the word “CONFIDENTIAL.” If only a portion or portions of the information or item warrant
 22 protection, the producing party, to the extent practicable, shall identify the protected
 23 portion(s).

24 5.3 Inadvertent Failures to Designate. If timely corrected, an inadvertent failure to
 25 designate qualified information or items does not, standing alone, waive the designating
 26 party’s right to secure protection under this agreement for such material. Upon timely

1 correction of a designation, the receiving party must make reasonable efforts to ensure that the
2 material is treated in accordance with the provisions of this agreement.

3 **6. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS**

4 **6.1 Timing of Challenges.** Any party or non-party may challenge a designation of
5 confidentiality at any time. Unless a prompt challenge to a designating party's confidentiality
6 designation is necessary to avoid foreseeable, substantial unfairness, unnecessary economic
7 burdens, or a significant disruption or delay of the litigation, a party does not waive its right to
8 challenge a confidentiality designation by electing not to mount a challenge promptly after the
9 original designation is disclosed.

10 **6.2 Meet and Confer.** The parties must make every attempt to resolve any dispute
11 regarding confidential designations without court involvement. Any motion regarding
12 confidential designations or for a protective order must include a certification, in the motion
13 or in a declaration or affidavit, that the movant has engaged in a good faith meet and confer
14 conference with other affected parties in an effort to resolve the dispute without court action.
15 The certification must list the date, manner, and participants to the conference. A good faith
16 effort to confer requires a face-to-face meeting or a telephone conference.

17 **6.3 Judicial Intervention.** If the parties cannot resolve a challenge without court
18 intervention, the designating party may file and serve a motion to retain confidentiality under
19 Local Civil Rule 7 (and in compliance with Local Civil Rule 5(g), if applicable). The burden
20 of persuasion in any such motion shall be on the designating party. Frivolous challenges, and
21 those made for an improper purpose (*e.g.*, to harass or impose unnecessary expenses and
22 burdens on other parties) may expose the challenging party to sanctions. All parties shall
23 continue to maintain the material in question as confidential until the court rules on the
24 challenge.



1 7. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED IN
2 OTHER LITIGATION

3 If a party is served with a subpoena or a court order issued in other litigation that
4 compels disclosure of any information or items designated in this action as
5 “CONFIDENTIAL,” that party must:

6 (a) promptly notify the designating party in writing and include a copy of
7 the subpoena or court order;

8 (b) promptly notify in writing the party who caused the subpoena or order
9 to issue in the other litigation that some or all of the material covered by the subpoena or
10 order is subject to this agreement. Such notification shall include a copy of this agreement;
11 and

12 (c) cooperate with respect to all reasonable procedures sought to be
13 pursued by the designating party whose confidential material may be affected.

14 8. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

15 If a receiving party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has disclosed
16 confidential material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized under this
17 agreement, the receiving party must immediately (a) notify in writing the designating party of
18 the unauthorized disclosures, (b) use its best efforts to retrieve all unauthorized copies of the
19 protected material, (c) inform the person or persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were
20 made of all the terms of this agreement, and (d) request that such person or persons execute
21 the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” that is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

22 9. INADVERTENT PRODUCTION OF PRIVILEGED OR OTHERWISE
23 PROTECTED MATERIAL

24 When a producing party gives notice to receiving parties that certain inadvertently
25 produced material is subject to a claim of privilege or other protection, the obligations of the
26 receiving parties are those set forth in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(b)(5)(B). This



provision is not intended to modify whatever procedure may be established in an e-discovery order or agreement that provides for production without prior privilege review. The parties agree to the entry of a non-waiver order under Fed. R. Evid. 502(d) as set forth herein.

10. NON TERMINATION AND RETURN OF DOCUMENTS

Within 60 days after the termination of this action, including all appeals, each receiving party must return all confidential material to the producing party, including all copies, extracts and summaries thereof. Alternatively, the parties may agree upon appropriate methods of destruction.

Notwithstanding this provision, counsel are entitled to retain one archival copy of all documents filed with the court, trial, deposition, and hearing transcripts, correspondence, deposition and trial exhibits, expert reports, attorney work product, and consultant and expert work product, even if such materials contain confidential material.

The confidentiality obligations imposed by this agreement shall remain in effect until a designating party agrees otherwise in writing or a court orders otherwise.

IT IS SO STIPULATED, THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD.

DATED: March 19, 2021

s/Jack B. Krona

Jack B. Krona, WSBA #42484
Attorneys for Plaintiff

DATED: March 23, 2021

s/Whitney L.C. Smith

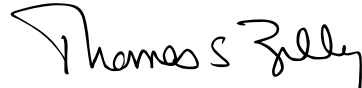
Whitney L.C. Smith WSBA #21159
Attorneys for Defendant

PURSUANT TO STIPULATION, IT IS SO ORDERED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pursuant to Fed. R. Evid. 502(d), the production of any documents in this proceeding shall not, for the purposes of this proceeding or any other federal or state proceeding, constitute a waiver by the producing party of any privilege

1 applicable to those documents, including the attorney-client privilege, attorney work-product
2 protection, or any other privilege or protection recognized by law.

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4 DATED: March 24, 2021

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6 The Honorable Thomas S. Zilly
7 United States District Judge
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EXHIBIT A

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND

I, _____ [print or type full name], of
_____ [print or type full address], declare under
penalty of perjury that I have read in its entirety and understand the Stipulated Protective
Order that was issued by the United States District Court for the Western District of
Washington on [date] in the case of _____ **[insert formal name of the case and
the number and initials assigned to it by the court]**. I agree to comply with and to be bound
by all the terms of this Stipulated Protective Order and I understand and acknowledge that
failure to so comply could expose me to sanctions and punishment in the nature of contempt. I
solemnly promise that I will not disclose in any manner any information or item that is subject
to this Stipulated Protective Order to any person or entity except in strict compliance with the
provisions of this Order.

I further agree to submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the
Western District of Washington for the purpose of enforcing the terms of this Stipulated
Protective Order, even if such enforcement proceedings occur after termination of this action.

Date: _____

City and State where sworn and signed: _____

Printed name: _____

Signature: _____